

## Message Text

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ACTION ORM-02

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 IO-13 ISO-00 DHA-02 VO-03 SCA-01

CIAE-00 FBIE-00 INSE-00 NSAE-00 DODE-00 SSO-00

/029 W

-----100940Z 015800 /10

O R 100844Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7517

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AUSSION GENEVA 399

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CONFIDENTIAL KUALA LUMPUR 3614

NOFORN

DEPT PASS ORM AND EA DAS OAKLEY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS SREF, MY

SUBJECT: INDOCHINESE REFUGEES-THE LEAP DAL

REF: A) STATE 133132 (B) KULALA LUMPUR 3483

1. CHARGE TELEPHONED UNHCR REGIONAL REP SAMPATKUMAR THIS MORNING (JUNE 10 TO INFORM HIM CONFIDENTIALLY OF PROPOSED APPROACH TO THE THAI GOVERNMENT FOR A LEAP DAL REFUGEE TRADE-OFF. SAMPATKUMAR WAS VERY PLEASED BY THE NEWS AND INFORMED US THAT HE HAD JUST RECEIVED A LETTER FROM THE SINGAPORE GOVERNMENT AGREEING TO ALLOW LEAP DAL REFUGEES TO TRANSIT SINGAPRE EN ROUTE TO COUNTRIES OF ASYLUM. HE NOTED THAT ONE REFUGEE WOULD LEAVE FOR THE US AND 19

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FOR GERMANY NEXT WEEK VIA SINGAPORE AND THAT ANOTHER 80 WOULD BE LEAVING FOR FRANCE VERY SHORTLY, POINTING OUT THAT THIS SHOULD REDUCE THE NUMBER TO BE EXCHANGED WITH THAILAND TO UNDER 200.

2. CHARGE DISCUSSED WITH SAMPATKUMAR FACT U.S. ONLY ABLE TO MOVE 52 TO 59 IN JUNE AND THAT WE HAD NO IDEA HOW

MANY WOULD ACTUALLY GO IN JULY AND AUGUST BECAUSE MOST  
ELIGIBLE REFUGEES' DATE OF ARRIVAL IS DECEMBER 1976 OR  
LATER. SAMPATKUMAR POINTED OUT THAT GOM HAD ALLOWED 300 FROM ROLAND  
TO RETURN ON THE UNDERSTANDING THAT THE U.S. WOULD TAKE  
A CORRESPONDING NUMBER OF ELIGIBLE REFUGEES WITHIN THE  
NEAR FUTURE. HE SAID THAT HE HAD MET WITH THE PRIME  
MINISTER AND OTHER GOM OFFICIALS LAST WEEK (BEFORE HUSSEIN  
LEFT FOR LONDON) AND HE WAS NOT SUCCESSFUL IN GETTING  
THEM TO DO MORE THAN "CONSIDER" ALLOWING THE LEAP DAL  
GROUP TO TRANSIT MALAYSIA BECAUSE THEY WERE ALARMED BY THE  
CONTINUING FLOOD OF ARRIVALS, SAMPATKUMAR INDICATED GENTLY  
BUT FIRMLY THAT HE FELT SLOWNESS OF U.S. PROGRAM HAD  
CONTRIBUTED TO UNFORTHCOMING GOM ATTITUDE.

3. SAMPATKUMAR ALSO SAID THAT HE HAD JUST RETURNED FROM  
JOHORE WHERE HAD HAD CONSULTATIONS WITH THE STATE GOVERNMENT  
AND INSPECTED REFUGEE LOCATIONS. HE OBTAINED AGREEMENT FROM  
THE STATE GOVERNMENT TO CONCENTRATE THE 750 BOAT REFUGEES  
NOW IN JOHORE ON AN ISLAND APPROXIMATELY 8 STATUTE MILES  
NORTHEAST OF MERSING CALLED PULAU BABI TENGAH (MIDDLE  
PIG ISLAND). JOHORE GOVERNMENT HAD STATED CATEGORICALLY  
THAT IT WOULD NOT ACCEPT ANYMORE BOAT REFUGEES BUT  
SAMPATKUMAR NOTED THAT A SEMI-SINKING FISHING BOAT  
WITH 58 WAS ACCEPTED YESTERDAY, THEREFORE HE HOPED THAT  
REFUGEES IN DIFFICULTIES STILL WILL BE PERMITTED TO LAND.

4. COMMENT: EMBASSY APPLAUDS DEPARTMENT'S PLAN TO  
SOLVE THE LEAP DAL PROBLEM BUT FEELS FORCED TO POINT OUT  
THAT SAMPATKUMAR IS CORRECT IN SAYING THAT WE HAVE  
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DISAPPOINTED GOM BY FAILING TO MOVE A "SIGNIFICANT"  
NUMBER OF ELIGIBLE REFUGEES AFTER ROLAND AFFAIR. THERE-  
FORE, WE CONTINUE TO NEED AUTHORITY FOR 100-200 REFUGEES  
OVER NEXT 60 DAYS OF AT VERY LEAST BE ABLE TO USE DATE OF  
BOATS' INITIAL ARRIVAL AS PRIORITY DATE.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT, MARINE TRANSPORTATION, POLICIES  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decapton Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decapton Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** INDOCHINESE REFUGEES-THE LEAP DAL  
**TAGS:** SREF, MY  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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22 May 2009  
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